

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

OMB-01 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /069 W
----- 012009

R 120637Z JUN 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5414

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 6565

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT CH

SUBJECT: FEI I-MIN SAYS CHINA'S PROVINCIAL TROUBLES WERE IN THE PAST

REF: HONG KONG 6531

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH CONGENOFFS JUNE 11, FEI I-MIN, EDITOR OF THE PRC-OWNED TA KUNG PAO, ACKNOWLEDGED THE SERIOUSNESS OF LAST YEAR'S POLITICAL DISTURBANCES IN CHINA. OBVIOUSLY LOOKING TO PROPAGANDIZE THE SUCCESS OF PEKING'S DRIVE THIS YEAR FOR UNITY AND STABILITY, FEI RECOUNTED HIS RECENT RAVELS IN CHINA AND DECLARED THAT THINGS WERE "MUCH QUIETER, MUCH QUIETER THAN LAST YEAR." VOLUNTEERING THE QUALIFICATION THAT HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THE SITUATION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, FEI SAID HE HAD SEEN FEW SIGNS OF UNREST DURING THE JOURNALISTS' TOUR WHICH HE LED.

2. COMMENTING THAT HE PARTICULARLY LOOKED FOR SIGNS OF TROUBLE IN YUNNAN WHERE, AS HE SAID, THERE HAD BEEN NUMEROUS "STORIES" OF PROBLEMS, HE WAS PLEASED TO REPORT NO EVIDENCE OF THE OLD CAMPAIGNING. HOWEVER, CONFIRMING THAT THESE WERE MORE THAN JUST "STORIES" LAST YEAR, FEI DID NOTE THAT " ONE OF
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THE LEADERS WAS EVEN KILLED" THERE LAST YEAR (SIC; THIS COULD

BE AN ANACHRONISTIC REFERENCE TO THE ASSASSINATION OF FORMER YUNNAN BOSS TAN FU-JEN IN 1970). SIMILARLY, IN PORTRAYING TIENTSIN'S PRESENT SITUATION, HE DESCRIBED THE CITY AS ONE WHICH HAD BEEN "VERY TROUBLED LAST YEAR." FEI ALSO REMARKED THAT THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN BOTH SIAN AND SHENYANG NOW WAS NORMAL.

3. COMMENT: FOR THE RECORD, LASTYEAR FEI STOUTLY INSISTED NOTHING WAS GOING ON IN CHINA AND SCOFFED AT REPORTS OF UNREST. CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975HONGK06565
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750204-1019
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750657/aaaacadf.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 HONG KONG 6531
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; RELEASED <15 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FEI I-MIN SAYS CHINA'S PROVINCIAL TROUBLES WERE IN THE PAST
TAGS: PINS, PINT, CH, (FEI I-MIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006